

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Meeting of the Commission
August 17, 2016
10:30 a.m.

James R. Thompson Center
DHS - Murdock Room
Suite 5-300
100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, Illinois

and

Lincoln Land Training Center
130 W. Mason Street
Room 104
Springfield, Illinois

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Commissioners

In Chicago

Chair Rose Mary Bombela-Tobias
Duke Alden (via telephone)
Michael Bigger
Robert A. Cantone
Hamilton Chang
Terry Cosgrove
Amy Kurson
Lauren Beth Gash (via telephone)
Hermene Hartman
Steve Kim
Patricia Bakalis Yadgir

In Springfield

None

Absent

Nabi Fakroddin
Diane M. Viverito

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Staff

Rhandi Anderson
LaNade Bridges
Michael Evans
Donyelle L. Gray
Bricia Herrera
Evelio Mora
Byron M. Wardlaw

Members of Public: None

NOTICE:

Public and closed meetings of the Illinois Human Rights Commission are audio recorded.

I. Call to Order

On August 17, 2016 at 10:37 a.m., Chair Bombela-Tobias called to order a meeting of the Illinois Human Rights Commission.

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., it was determined that:

- 1) A quorum of the public body was present at the meeting.
- 2) Commissioners Alden and Gash called during the meeting and gave notice to the General Counsel and Secretary of the Public Body, Donyelle Gray that they would not be able to be physically present for the August 17, 2016 meeting and requested to participate via telephone. Motion to allow Commissioner Alden and Gash to participate via telephone made by Commissioner Cosgrove, seconded by Commissioner Hartman. Motion carried 9-0.

II. Consideration of Minutes

July 20, 2016

The Commission voted to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2016 as submitted by staff. Motion to approve the July 20, 2016 minutes as submitted by staff made by Commissioner Bigger and seconded by Commissioner Hartman. Motion carried 11-0.

II. Chair's Report

Rose Mary Bombela-Tobias, Chair

Chair Bombela-Tobias reported that Commissioner Gash represented the Commission at an event honoring the late Commission Chair Abner J. Mikva.

General Counsel Donyelle Grey along with Commissioner Gash are finalizing a proclamation in recognition of Mr. Mikva's service with the Commission.

Chair Bombela-Tobias reported that she and N. Keith Chambers will meet with Janice Glen, the new Executive Director of the Illinois Department of Human Rights.

Chair Bombela-Tobias announced that Hector Villagrande is no longer the Commission's legislative liaison.

IV. Staff Reports

A. N. Keith Chambers, Executive Director

Mr. Chambers reported that the meeting with Janice Glen will take place August 19, 2016.

Mr. Chambers reported that he met with the new legislative liaison, Chris Boyster, last Monday. Mr. Chambers discussed Governor Rauner's Executive Order 1606 ("Order 1606") and that a follow up meeting is scheduled for September 2016. Mr. Chambers will continue to monitor Order 1606.

Mr. Chambers further reported that Chief Administrative Law Judge Michael J. Evans and General Counsel Gray met with representatives of Central Management Services ("CMS"). The meeting was held to discuss Order 1606 and the Commission process.

Mr. Chambers reported had nothing new to report on the budget.

Mr. Chambers reported that he is working on a contingency plan in the event of a labor strike by the state workers. No strike has been taken by AFSCAME. In the event that there is a strike, the Commission will be able to function at 85% capacity.

Mr. Chambers reported that the Commission's website is being updated.

Mr. Chambers gave a brief update as to the court reporters contracted by the Commission. Mr. Chambers reported that the Commission has one less court reporter available.

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Chair Bombela-Tobias at this juncture of the meeting request that the Commissioner submit ideas for training. Mr. Chambers suggested that the Commission reach out to the Department of Human Rights for a training presentation.

B. Dr. Ewa I. Ewa, Chief Fiscal Officer

Dr. Ewa was attending a meeting in Springfield and was unable to attend the Commission's August 17, 2016 meeting.

C. Michael J. Evans, Chief Administrative Law Judge

Chief Judge Evans gave his report for the month of July 2016

D. Donyelle Gray, General Counsel

Ms. Gray distributed the final Commission 2017 meeting calendar draft. The Commission voted to approve the 2017 as submitted by staff. Motion to approve the 2017 meeting calendar made by Commissioner Cosgrove, seconded by Commissioner Hartman. Motion carried 11-0.

Ms. Gray gave a general reminder that no political activity should take place on state time or on state property. Ms. Gray further reminded the Commission that all Commission activity could be subject to a FOIA request.

Ms. Gray gave a presentation on the state's Ethics Act and Post-State Employment for "H" Listers/Revolving Door Notification. A "Notice and Acknowledgment of Receipt of Revolving Door Provisions," was distributed to the Commissioner's. Ms. Gray advised the Commissioners that they must sign/date and return to Ms. Gray by no later than August 22, 2016.

Ms. Gray gave a report on the General Counsel section case load.

Ms. Gray reported that the Illinois Human Rights Act was amended concerning domestic workers. The Act was amended to include domestic workers who were previous excluded by the Act.

Ms. Gray distributed recent Labor Law updates.

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V. New Business

None

VI. Respondents' Joint Motion to Compel Clerk to Forward Respondents' Exceptions on Liability and Attorneys' Fees to the Commission for Review

Chrissie Washington v. State of Illinois, Department of Revenue; State of Illinois Department of Aging

Charge Nos. 2009SF0065, 2009SF0066, 2009SF4188, 2009SF4189,
2009SF4190 ALS No. 10-0067C

The Commission voted to deny the Motion for Lack of Jurisdiction. Motion to deny the Motion made by Commissioner Cosgrove, seconded by Commissioner Bigger. Motion carried 11-0.

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. Public Comment

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., the meeting was open for public comment

None

IX. Executive Session

None

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m. Motion made by Commissioner Chang, seconded by Commissioner Hartman. Motion carried 11-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donyelle L. Gray
General Counsel